

Message Text

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SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USICA WASHDC
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
ALL NATO CAPITALS
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USNATO 04731

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: DPC, MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE: DRC DISCUSSION
OF MAY 10

REFS: (A) USNATO 4593 (DTG 081757Z MAY 78),
(B) USNATO 4612 (DTG 091326Z MAY 78)(NOTAL),
(C) STATE 118522 (DTG 100001Z MAY 78)

SUMMARY: DURING CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL
COMMUNIQUE (REF A) MAY 10, THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE
(DRC) GENERALLY ACCEPTED US CHANGES (REFS B AND C), WITH
THE MARKED EXCEPTION OF PROPOSED LANGUAGE ON LTDP
FOLLOW-THROUGH ARRANGEMENTS, WHERE THE US WAS ISOLATED.
COMMITTEE WAS SPLIT ON WHETHER TO INCLUDE A PROPOSED
ANNEX SUMMARIZING THE LTDP, WITH A SLIGHT MAJORITY
FAVORING WITHHOLDING SUCH AN ANNEX FOR THE SUMMIT. THE
INTERNATIONAL STAFF WILL CIRCULATE A REVISED DRAFT OF
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THE COMMUNIQUE ON MAY 11, WHICH THE DRC WILL ADDRESS
ON MAY 16. WE PROVIDE BELOW MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE TEXTURAL
CHANGES AND DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

1. COVERAGE OF LTDP. US REP (BADER) SUPPORTED
STRONGLY BY BELGIAN (VAN DRIESSCHE), CANADIAN (OLSON)
AND FRG (WELZ) REPS, ARGUED FOR WITHHOLDING THE ANNEX

ON THE LTDP SO AS NOT TO DETRACT FROM THE SUMMIT. CANADIAN REP ADDED THAT PUBLICATION OF THE ANNEX PRIOR TO THE SUMMIT COULD LEAD TO PREMATURE PRESS SPECULATION, CONFLICTING REMARKS BY MINISTERS AND UNWARRANTED FEARS THAT VAST NEW RESOURCES WOULD BE NECESSARY. HE SUGGESTED THE ALTERNATIVE OF EXPANDING COVERAGE OF THE LTDP IN PARA 9 OF THE COMMUNIQUE. CHAIRMAN (ASYG MUMFORD), SUPPORTED BY DUTCH (WYNAENDTS), NORWEGIAN (HEIDENSTROM), UK (PETERS) AND SHAPE (SCHWEITZER) REPS URGED RETENTION OF THE ANNEX ON THE GROUNDS THAT (A) MEDIA COVERAGE WOULD BE EPHEMERAL AND DOUBLE TREATMENT OF THE LTDP WOULD REINFORCE RATHER THAN DETRACT FROM THE SUMMIT; (B) THE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE WOULD COVER A NUMBER OF OTHER MATTERS AS WELL AS THE LTDP; (C) A MORE DEFENSE-ORIENTED SET OF JOURNALISTS WOULD BE COVERING THE DPC MINISTERIAL; (D) REGARDLESS OF WHAT APPEARED IN THE COMMUNIQUE, DEFENSE MINISTERS (NOTABLY SECRETARY BROWN) WOULD BE MEETING WITH NEWSMEN AND GIVING THEIR OWN INTERPRETATIONS OF WHAT HAD TRANSPIRED ON THE LTDP, AND THUS IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO HAVE AN OFFICIAL VERSION; AND (E) EXPANDING TREATMENT OF THE LTDP, AS PROPOSED BY CANADA, IN THE BODY OF THE COMMUNIQUE WOULD MAKE THAT DOCUMENT UNWIELDY. SHAPE REP STATED THAT SACEUR PERSONALLY FAVORED RETAINING THE ANNEX FOR ALL THE REASONS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT THE US WAS SUPPORTING A MINIMALIST POSITION BY NOT PUSHING FOR MAXIMUM PUBLICITY. HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT MINISTERS

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WOULD ACTUALLY BE APPROVING THE SUBSTANTIVE PROGRAMS, WITH SUMMIT ACTION IN FACT LIMITED TO ENDORSEMENT. DUTCH REP STATED THAT COUNTRIES SHOULD HAVE AN AGREED TEXT AVAILABLE FOR THEIR OWN USE AND NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE IRONIC INDEED IF MINISTERS HAD TO REFER THE MEDIA TO THE RECENT ISSUE OF THE NATO REVIEW, WHICH HAD FAR MORE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF THE LTDP THAN THE DRAFT COMMUNIQUE.

2. IN VIEW OF THE LACK OF CONSENSUS ON THIS MATTER, THE COMMITTEE DID NOT EXAMINE THE ANNEX FURTHER, AND THE ANNEX WILL APPEAR IN BRACKETS IN THE NEXT DRAFT OF THE COMMUNIQUE. AS TO THE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE, MUMFORD STATED HE WOULD RECOMMEND TO SYG LUNS THAT THE DRC BE GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREPARING PUBLIC DOCUMENTS ON THE LTDP.

3. REVISIONS TO DRAFT COMMUNIQUE.

. - PARA 2. AT CANADIAN REP'S SUGGESTION, COMMITTEE AGREED TO SPECIFY THE DEFENSE AND POLITICAL ISSUES REFERRED TO IN THE FIRST SENTENCE AS THE EAST-WEST STUDY AND ARMAMENTS COOPERATION. DRC AGREED WITH US REP'S

SUGGESTION TO PUT A FULL STOP AFTER "MAY 1977" AND
DELETE THE LAST THREE LINES OF THE PARA SINCE IT DUPLI-
CATES LATER LANGUAGE ON THE LTDP. NO SUPPORT WAS SHOWN
FOR US REP'S SUGGESTION THAT DISCUSSION OF THE LTDP
(PARAS 8-10) BE PROMOTED TO FOLLOW PARA 2.

. - PARA 3. COMMITTEE TIGHTENED THIS PARA BY DELETING
MUCH OF THE VERBAGE DESCRIBING THE FRAMEWORK SET BY

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MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AND PROMOTING THE PARA 6 COVERAGE
OF THE 3 PERCENT AIM.

. - PARA 4. AT CANADIAN REP'S SUGGESTION, THE LAST
SENTENCE WAS REVISED AS FOLLOWS: "MINISTERS REAFFIRMED
THEIR SUPPORT FOR MEASURES TO ACHIEVE EFFECTIVE ARMS
CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGREEMENTS UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE
GENERAL PURSUIT OF DETENTE, BUT THEY STRESSED THAT IN
THE FACE OF GROWING WARSAW PACT CAPABILITIES, NEGOTIATIONS
TO THAT END MUST BE BACKED BY AN APPROPRIATE DETERRENCE
AND DEFENSE POSTURE." DRC REJECTED UK AND DUTCH
SUGGESTIONS TO ADD A SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE UN SPECIAL
SESSION ON DISARMAMENT.

. - PARA 6. COMMITTEE AGREED TO US REP'S PROPOSAL TO

DROP REFERENCE TO DPC ACTION ON FORCE GOALS AND, AT CANADIAN'S SUGGESTION, TO ADD SENTENCE NOTING THAT THE FORCE GOALS ARE INTERRELATED AND COMPLEMENTARY WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

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LTDP.

. - PARA 7. COMMITTEE AGREED TO ADOPT NEW TEXT CIRCULATED BY THE TURKISH REP (OZCERI), WHICH DROPS REFERENCE TO DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS AND NOTES US INITIATIVES TO REMOVE EXISTING ARMS PROCUREMENT RESTRICTIONS.

. - PARA 8. DRC ACCEPTED NEW SENTENCE PROPOSED BY THE US, DELETING ONLY THE WORD "SUBSTANTIAL."

. - PARA 9. COMMITTEE ACCEPTED US CHANGE TO SENTENCE ON NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP. CANADIAN REP CIRCULATED A TEXT, WHICH ESSENTIALLY REDUCES THE PROPOSED ANNEX ON THE LTDP TO A SINGLE PITHY PARAGRAPH. CANADIAN SUGGESTION ATTRACTED CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT BUT, IN VIEW OF THE LACK OF CONSENSUS ON WHETHER TO RETAIN THE ANNEX, DRC AGREED THAT CANADIAN TEXT SHOULD LIKEWISE APPEAR IN BRACKETS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE MORE FULL TREATMENT IN THE ANNEX.

. - ANNEX 10. US WAS ISOLATED ON PROPOSED ADDITION OF TEXT ON FOLLOW-THROUGH ARRANGEMENTS WITH SEVERAL ALLIES (NOTABLY THE DUTCH AND ITALIAN (CIARRAPICO) REPS) STATING FLATLY THAT THE TEXT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THEIR AUTHORITIES AND THE CHAIRMAN AND OTHER REPS REMARKING THAT (A) THIS WAS A PROPER ISSUE FOR A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT TO MINISTERS BUT NOT A PUBLIC DOCUMENT, AND (B) THE US APPEARED TO BE TRYING AN "END-RUN" TO GET LANGUAGE IN THE COMMUNIQUE THAT REMAINED CONTROVERSIAL AND NOT APPROVED IN THE LTDP REPORT. CHAIRMAN AND ALLIED REPS ARGUED AGAINST INCLUDING US TEXT IN BRACKETS AND CONSISTENT WITH ACCEPTED PRACTICE FOR LTDP REPORT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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REVISED DRAFT COMMUNIQUE WILL INCLUDE A FOOTNOTE TO THE EFFECT THAT THIS ISSUE WOULD BE REVIEWED IN LIGHT OF MINISTERIAL DECISIONS ON RELEVANT PARAGRAPHS IN THE LTDP REPORT.

. - PARA 13. AGREEING THAT PROGRESS ON ARMAMENTS

PLANNING HAD BEEN SLIGHT BUT THAT THIS SHOULD BE TREATED CIRCUMSPECTLY IN A PUBLIC DOCUMENT, DRC AMENDED THIS PARA TO (A) REFLECT MERELY THAT MINISTERS RECEIVED A REPORT ON ARMAMENTS PLANNING, AND (B) DELETE THE LAST SENTENCE.

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. - PARA 15. THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF CIRCULATED THE FOLLOWING TEXT ON AWACS (IN BRACKETS): "MINISTERS TOOK NOTE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE PROPOSAL FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF A FORCE OF E-3 AIRCRAFT AS A MAJOR COMPONENT OF A NATO AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING FORCE. THEY AGREED TO EXPEDITE THE REVIEW OF THIS PROPOSAL THROUGH NATIONAL PROCESSES WITH A VIEW TO FINAL RATIFICATION OF THE PROGRAMME BEFORE THE AUTUMN. THEY NOTED THAT NATO-FUNDED INITIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH A STANDARDISED CONFIGURATION FOR UNITED STATES AND NATO E-3 AIRCRAFT WERE UNDERWAY, AND AGREED TO CONTINUE FUNDING THESE ACTIVITIES. THEY AGREED (LEFT BLANK) AS THE HOST NATION FOR THE NATO E-3 MAIN OPERATING BASE, AND COMMISSIONED PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO ESTABLISH THE NATO AEW PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREED CHARTER."

. - PARA 16. US PROPOSED TEXT WILL APPEAR IN BRACKETS IN NEXT VERSION OF THE COMMUNIQUE. BENNETT

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